(b) So far, 124 childern between the age group 0—12 years have been affected by AIDS, as reported to NACO.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Government have taken the following steps;

(i) Giving Safe and HIV free blood to all Thalassemic and hemofilic Children which is going on satisfactorily.

(ii) A pilot project is being contemplated by Government to give gidovuline (AZT) to all pregnant mothers having HIV infection which is an approved mode of treatment.

Increase in Child Mortality Rate

961. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the increasing child mortality rate in the country;

(b) if so, the state-wise position as on date; and

(c) the datails of steps taken by Government to reduce the child mortality?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) As per the information available through Sample Registration System of the Registrar General of India, the Child Mortality Rate (0—4 years) at the national level is showing a declining trend. The latest estimates of Child Mortality Rete (0—4) years for India and major States for 1994 are given in the Statement. *(See* below).

(c) To bring down child mortality, Immunization;? Control of diarrnoeat diseases and acute respiratory infections; essential newborn care; and prophylaxis against Iron and vitamin A deficiencies are being implemented as part of the Child Survival and safe Motherhood Programme. These interventions will continue to be implemented under the Reproductive and Child Health Programme during the Ninth Five Year Plan.

Statement

Estimates of Child Mortality Rate (0—4 Years) for India and major States, 1994.

(Source: Sample Registration System, Registrar Genera] of India)

India and Major States	Child Mortality Rate
India*	23.9
Andhra Pradesh	17.0
Assam	24.7
Bihar	24.9
Gujarat	22.2
Haryana	22.3
Himachal Pradesh	16.0
Karnataka	18.6
Kerala	3.4
Madhya Pradesh	34.8
Maharashtra	14.4
Orissa	31.6
Punjab	15.7
Rajasthan	27.4
Tamil Nadu	13.4
Uttar Pradesh	33.0
West Bengal	19.8

* Excludes Jammu & Kashmir and Mizoram

Action Plan for AIDS control in the North-Eastern States

962. SHRI S.M. KRISHNA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the sharp increase in AIDS cases in certain States, particularly in the Northeastern parts of the country; if so, the number of AIDS cases detected/reported during the last three years, from the North-eastern States, State-wise and yearwise;

(b) whether Governments of Northeastern States have requested the Central Government for a helping hand to arrest